THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BiJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) The annual average ftow in the river systems of the country is 1869 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM). Owing to the topographic, hydrological and other constraints, the utilizable water is 1122 BCM ot which surface water Is 690 BCM and annual replenishable ground water resources is 432 BCM. Presently, 605 **BCM** is being utilised from surface and ground water resources.

(b) and (c) Till now, total live storage of 177 BCM has been created. Dams under construction/consideration will create an additional live storage capacity of 207 BCM. For speedy completion of ongoing water resources projects, the Central Government has launched the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP), which add to the country's developed water potential. In addition, the Central Government, through non-conventional measures like inter-basin transfer, has formulated the National Perspective Plan for water resources development.

Cauvery River Authority

1503. SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) when the Cauvery River Authority was created;

(b) the number of sittings held by this Authority year-wise, so far;

(c) the decision taken by this Authority meeting-wise; and

(d) the number of the decisions taken by the Authority which have been implemented so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) The Cauvery River Authority (CRA) was constituted on 11th August, 1998 to give effects to the implementation of interim order dated 25th June, 1991 of the Cauvery Water Disputes tribunal (CWDT) and all its related subsequent orders.

(b) The Authority has held one meeting each in the years ;998, 2000, 2001 and two meetings In the year 2002.

(c) A statement enclosed. *(See below)*

(d) Decisions regarding framing of rules of Conduct of Business and amendment thereto have been implemented in full. Efforts have been made to implement other decisions. However, some States have represented to CRA to review its earlier decisions.

Statement

The meeting-wise decisions taken by Cauvery River Authority (CRA)

Meeting	Decisions
1	The Rules of business and modalities to measure the inflow in the Mettur Dam, in view of the CWDT's order were, *inter-alia* discussed.
2	Authority confirmed the minutes of the first meeting and approved the Rules and Regulations for Conduct of the Business of the Cauvery River Authority. It was also agreed that Government of Karnataka would endeavourer to make good the deficit in inflow into Mettur reservoir for the month of June 2000 within next 30 days and Government of Tamil Nadu would make available the required quantities of water to Pondicherry.
3	The Authority confirmed the minutes of the second meeting and approved the proposed amendments in the Rules and Regulations for Conduct of the Business of the Cauvery River Authority. After taking note of the draught conditions In the basin in both States, the Authority directed the Govt, of Karnataka to ensure inflows at Mettur as stipulated by the Tribunal especially in view of the situation being faced in the Cauvery basin of Tamil Nadu. The Authority also decided that storage position in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu be reviewed by the Cauvery Monitoring Committee on a monthly basis and if the situation warrants, it would recommend for convening and emergency meeting of the Authority. The Authority decided to work out an acceptable and equitable procedure for pro-rata sharing of the distress and accordingly requested the basin States to put forward their specific suggestions for consideration by the Authority.
4	It was agreed that there is a distress situation in the Cauvery basin and that the distress will need to be shared among all the basin States and the details of distress sharing formula can be worked out by the Monitoring Committee within a fortnight.

1	2
5 .	It was decided that keeping in view that inflows and storages in the four Karnataka reservoirs and in Mettur as well as the requirements of the two States, Karnataka should release waters from its reservoirs so as to ensure an inflow of 9000 cusecs at Mettur amounting to about 0.8 TMC per day accounted on a weekly average basis for the months of September and October, 2002. Tamil Nadu in turn will ensure proportionate releases to Pondicherry.

Report on safe drinking water

1504. SHRI CR THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken note of the report published by Third World Academy of Science on 'Safe Drinking Water';

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c)whether it is a fact that India has to face severe water scarcity as per the report; and

(d) if so, the action proposed by Government to deal with the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The report published by Third World Academy of Science on "Safe Drinking Water" states that the majority of the world's population does not have access to safe drinking water. This is certainly true in most parts of Africa and Asia. Even in relatively advanced countries such as India, safe drinking water is not readily available, particularly in rural areas. Together these sources account for just 1 per cent of all water on earth. Six billion people depend on freshwater supply (available from rivers, lakes, underground sources and aquifers) and a significant portion of the world's population now face water shortages. Today 31 countries representing 2.8 billion people, including China, India, Kenya, Ethiopia, Nigeria and Peru, confront chronic water problems. Total withdrawals of freshwater have increased dramatically in